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PRAVDA ARTICLE ON TRIAL OF GERALD BROOKE

Moscow PRAVDA 23 July 1965--A

(Article by B. Aleksandrov and K. Raspevon: "Mr. Brooke's Trip Was a Failure")  
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(Text) On 22 July a public trial began in Moscow in the criminal case of British subject Gerald Brooke, who has been charged with subversive anti-Soviet activities. A panel for criminal cases of the Moscow City Court is hearing Brooke's case. The panel consists of L.E. Almazov, chairman of the criminal cases panel of the Moscow City Court as court president, people's assessors V.I. Obratsov and P.I. Popov, and B.G. Khodyrev, court secretary.

Charges for the state are being presented by Senior Assistant to the USSR Prosecutor General, State Justice Counsellor Second Class G.A. Terekov. Lawyer N.K. Borovik of the Moscow City Lawyers Board is acting for the defense. Representatives of the Moscow working people and Soviet and foreign correspondents are present in the court hall.

According to the charges, on 25 April 1965 British subject Gerald Brooke was arrested redhanded by state security organs in Moscow and was brought to criminal court for subversive anti-Soviet activity, a crime specified by Part One, Sect. 70 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.

After announcement of the charge, the court president asked defendant Brooke whether or not he pleaded guilty on the charge made against him. Defendant Brooke replied: "Yes, I plead guilty entirely and completely."

The defendant was interrogated during the evening session. He admitted that he was aware of the criminal nature of the task assigned to him. The trial continues.

Evidently Mr. Brooke had a solid reputation among his colleagues; he had a Bachelor's degree in Russian language and literature. After graduating from the Slavic department of London University Brooke became a teacher at Holborn College in London. Mr. Brooke is a member of the Labor Party.

When, this April, Brooke went to Moscow at the head of a group of college students who are studying Russian, few people would have assumed that he would stay in the Soviet Union for a long time. But after only a few days he was arrested by state security organ workers in the apartment of Muscovite Konstantinov. Workers of the State Security Committee, entering the room in which Konstantinov and Brooke and his wife Barbara were, saw that the red leather binding of an album with postcards of movie stars which Brooke had brought with him was torn up. Anti-Soviet literature, rubber printing plates, a long list of addresses of Soviet and foreign citizens, and instructions for receiving and deciphering coded radio messages were contained in the cover under the red leather. All this was intended for Konstantinov. The nature of the "souvenirs" from London between the double bottoms of the toilet case proved to be of the same type.

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This was not the first time Brooke had been in Moscow. In compliance with the agreement on cultural exchanges between the governments of the USSR and Great Britain, Brooke worked in residence at the philological department of Moscow University six years ago. At that time he completed a three-week excursion through the Soviet Union, which in his words left the "most favorable impressions on him."

It is true, though, that remembering those days Brooke pointed out during the investigation that English embassy members repeatedly questioned resident students about what military objectives they had seen in Moscow and during their trips to the country. "People in the embassy were interested," Brooke said, in "whether Soviet students invited us into their homes, what positions the parents and friends of our acquaintances held, whether they included military people, where they lived, and what they were doing. Attache Taylor asked that we send him photographs of military planes if we sometimes had such."

Thus English diplomats incited English students to "studies" which had nothing to do with those for which they had come to Moscow. Postgraduate Martin (?Dukehurst) from Great Britain studied in Moscow along with Brooke. Evidently the talks with English diplomats were not lost on him. In 1961 (Dukehurst) unexpectedly appeared as a guide at the British exposition in Moscow. He used his position for the collection of intelligence information on our country and for the dissemination of anti-Soviet literature, actions for which he was expelled from the USSR.

It was this (Dukehurst), now lecturer at Glasgow University, who in London acquainted Brooke with a certain Georgiy. Brook's new acquaintance turned out a member of the anti-Soviet NTS organization; the so-called National Labor Union (NTS) was organized in the twenties by white emigre rabble expelled from Russia by the Great October Revolution.

During World War II the NTS faithfully served the Hitlerites on the territory occupied by the latter. Its agents were sent as stool pigeons to the partisans. After the rout of fascist Germany the NTS leaders found new masters. Thus one of them, Okolovich, in the war years served in the Gestapo and led groups of stool pigeons in Smolensk, Vitebsk, Orsha, Minsk, Borishov, and Bobruysk. Now he is drawing a salary from British intelligence. He is also paid by the Americans and by the intelligence service of the German Federal Republic.

Romanov--his actual name is Ostrovskiy--another NTS figure, published a profascist newspaper in Dnepropetrovsk during the Hitler occupation; lately he has been in the pay of American intelligence. And Rar, who escaped from Riga together with the Hitlerites and who worked for a long time with the BBC, is an agent of the English intelligence service. For the dollars which the U.S. CIA is paying the NTS every year, the leaders of his organization of scum fabricate dirty pamphlets in which they preach sabotage and willful destruction on the territory of our country. Their shrill voices are sometimes heard in relays of American broadcasting stations situated in the Munich area. Preaching terror as an "effective means of the struggle of revolutionaries," they list as an example. . . the murder of U.S. President Kennedy!

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The handful of wretched parasites at the table of capitalist intelligence service is leaning over backward to prove its zeal to their masters. But finding themselves completely isolated, failing to find fellow thinkers, and losing their "cadres" beyond the border, there is nothing the NTS bosses can boast of to those whose money feeds them. To "earn a livelihood" they engage in deception of their masters and devise various combinations to swindle them.

The following detail is very significant. NTS leaders are compiling the entire material "obtained" in several versions. The Americans get the most "complete report," whereas "individual facts" are sold to the English and West Germans. These in turn, after working over these "facts," send "reports" to the Americans without disclosing their sources. After studying the reports of their "allies," American intelligence officers are convinced that the information previously received from NTS deserves "absolute confidence." What follows are new tips for the subsistence of this wicked gang.

Must it be said after all this how the NTS leaders are craving for "popularity?" This scum considers any mention of the NTS in the Soviet press as a great success for them, seeing in it an opportunity to snatch a fatter piece of the cake from their masters. "NTS members," Brooke pointed out during the investigation, "are literally enthused when their activity is mentioned in the Soviet press."

Seen from this viewpoint, these scoundrels will try to make capital even out of the fiasco of their London courier. It is not so easy for Soviet people to understand now defendant Brooke, with a Bachelor's degree, could strike a dirty bargain with a rogue who did not even give him his name, since for a long time the English have had a reputation for being prudent people. Yes, it is difficult to understand the motives which made Brooke carry out anti-Soviet tasks of the NTS. But let Brooke himself take the floor:

"Knowing that I very much like coffee and sweets and fruits, Georgiy always invited me . . . . We met at the restaurants "Shah" "Kashmir," "Bombay," "Taj Mahal, and "Orient" . . . . Georgiy used to pay for our joint lunches and treated me to expensive food. He gave me 50 pounds for the trip through the Soviet Union . . . . "

Brooke did not value the honor of an English gentleman highly. Was this possible because he counted on absolute impunity? "By Georgiy's words," Brooke now confessed, "I would not find myself alone in Moscow, and in case of necessity I was to apply for help to Secretary of the Embassy of Great Britain Anthony Bishop or to any other responsible embassy worker . . . For security purposes, I was not to take these materials back to England . . . . I knew that my acquaintance (Dukehurst), who is connected with the NTS, has already once applied to Bishop for help. On the basis of these facts I arrived at the conclusion that NTS maintains contacts with English state organs and enjoys their assistance and support . . . . This was one of the main reasons which motivated me to consent to carrying out NTS tasks . . . . "

Thus, on the one hand, bouts at somebody else's expenses in restaurants and coffeehouses and coffee and sweets plus 50 pounds sterling, and on the other hand absolute confidence in his own safety--and Brooke brings into our country anti-Soviet literature, means for cryptography, and a portable printing set.

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Brooke was assigned the task of meeting several people in Moscow, to find out what the harvest forecasts were in the Soviet Union, and whether or not it was possible to organize the publication of an underground journal in Moscow. He agreed to visit as many churches as possible and to find out the age of the priests, their attitude toward the Soviet regime, and the contents of their sermons. He was to buy as many Soviet guide books, itineraries, schemes, and maps as possible and to gather information on Soviet shortwave amateurs. And Brooke was industrious.

Brooke brought Konstantinov from London more than 200 addresses of Soviet citizens and a few dozen addresses of citizens of capitalist states, including public figures. Konstantinov was to send to these addresses anti-Soviet leaflets printed with a portable printing set, and thus create the illusion that there allegedly exists an anti-Soviet underground in the Soviet Union.

It is interesting that all the addresses of Soviet citizens were taken from divorce announcements published in the papers, from bulletins on exchanges of housing, from telephone books, and from stamp collectors magazines; the people listed in Brooke's list brought from London comprises people who died long ago, so-called dead souls. People living in plenty would not embark on such a venture.

Swindling and roguery are usual NTS tricks. Several years ago English Parliament member S. Osborne approached the Soviet Embassy in England with a request to translate for him letters from the Soviet Union into the English language. The embassy workers then informed Osborne that these letters were of a nature hostile to the USSR, and they were returned to him because the addresses in the Soviet Union did not exist. The letters were returned to Osborne because his address was on them as that of the sender. Rogues had borrowed Osborne's name and his address as a disguise for their dirty activities. Evidently even those English citizens whose addresses were found on defendant Brooke do not suspect how the NTS people operating in England are using their addresses.

At the orders of capitalist intelligence services the NTS bosses are resorting to various tricks. At their instigation some foreigners who visit our country as tourists are stealthily dropping into mailboxes previously prepared letters addressed to Soviet people. There were cases in which NTS people from Amsterdam or Frankfurt /Main/ tried to contact Soviet citizens by telephone on the territory of our country and to conduct provocative conversations with these citizens, trying to pass themselves off as correspondents of foreign newspapers and magazines.

The Soviet people brought all anonymous letters to the Chekists. This is quite natural. Our people value their fatherland and piously protect its security. Thanks to the patriotism of Soviet people, the mercenaries of imperialist intelligence services always have failed and will fail in the future, no matter what disguises they might assume.

The trial of bachelor Brooke is brilliant evidence of this. Brooke established contacts with Muscovite Konstantinov, whom the NTS people considered their man and whom they said was a reliable person for them. They erred. The Muscovite Konstantinov did everything that depended on him to help the Chekists render the ill-starred courier harmless. Brooke's trip was a fiasco. Konstantinov's patriotic act enabled the workers of the State Security Committee to take the required measures in good time and to stop Brooke's hostile activity on the territory of the Soviet Union.

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The Englishman who took the rogues' bait has studied the Russian language carefully and for a long time. His notebook is speckled with idioms such as "to get away in good time," "to rush a thing," and "the kettle (head) (brackets as printed) does not work."

It is assumed that Brooke's trial constitutes a proper warning for those people who, coming to us as tourist from abroad, expect to "rush" some dirty thing in our country and then "to get away" unpunished. Brooke's example ought to help such "gentlemen" to adopt a more careful attitude toward "enticing" proposals by bourgeois intelligence services and to do "better work with their kettle."

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